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MAY 27 2010
OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Daniel P. GOLD, et al :
Application No. 09/927,122 : **ON PETITION**
Filed: August 10, 2001 :
Attorney Docket No. P09578US01 :

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed March 17, 2010, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to timely reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 to the final Office action, mailed March 18, 2008, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of **three (3) months**. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on June 19, 2008.

A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by: (1) the required reply, unless previously filed; (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional; and (4) any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required by 37 CFR 1.137(d). Where there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 was unintentional, the Director may require additional information. See MPEP 711.03(c)(II)(C) and (D). The instant petition lacks item(s) (1).

With respect to item (1): A review of the Office record shows that the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) submitted with the petition dated March 17, 2010, in response to the Office action of March 18, 2008, is improper. In this regard, the RCE was not accompanied by a submission (37 CFR 1.114). Accordingly, the required reply is considered incomplete and does not meet the requirements as set forth in 37 CFR 1.137(b).

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure;

Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) requires a statement that "the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional." Since the statement appearing in the petition varies from the language required by 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3), the statement is being construed as the required statement. Petitioner must notify the Office if this is **not** a correct reading of the statement appearing in the petition.

Any request for reconsideration of this decision must be submitted within **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mail date of this decision. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are permitted. The reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b)." This is **not** a final agency action within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 704.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By Mail: Mail Stop PETITION
 Commissioner for Patents
 P. O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By hand: U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
 Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Petitions
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 401 Dulany Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

The centralized facsimile number is **(571) 273-8300**.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-6735.

/dcg/
Diane C. Goodwyn
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions